

NPL Site Narrative for Kalama Specialty Chemicals

KALAMA SPECIALTY CHEMICALS Beaufort, South Carolina

Conditions at listing (September 1983): The Kalama Specialty Chemicals Site covers about 16 acres in a coastal environment in Beaufort, Beaufort County, South Carolina. The company is no longer in business. Its primary product was Krinite, a herbicide. Wastes present on the site include methanol bottoms, laboratory wastes, distillation bottoms, phosphorus oxychloride, phosphorus trichloride, xylene wastes, Krinite wastes, spent oil, and methyl methacrylate. On-site is a lagoon that at one time overflowed into a tile field. In January 1979, an explosion of one of the reactors caused extensive spilling of various organic chemicals. State data indicate that the explosion, as well as the tile field operation, has contaminated shallow ground water with lead, benzene, ethyl benzene, and toluene. The site is in the recharge zone of a primary aquifer. State analytical data also indicate surface water is contaminated with the same chemicals. In January 1980, the State issued a Consent Order requiring the company to (1) upgrade a treatment system on the site and (2) develop a plan to study ground water.

Status (June 1984): In accordance with an amended Consent Order, the company has submitted a proposal to the State for a study of ground water and soil contamination.

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at [ATSDR - ToxFAQs](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp) (<http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/index.asp>) or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.